

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

This amendment amends the specification to correct typographical errors and errors to references characters. No new matter was added to the specification by the present amendment.

This amendment also cancels claims 1, 2, and 4-6, amends claims 3 and 7 and adds new claims 8-13.

The amendment to claim 3, which was indicated as allowable, rewrites claim 3 in independent form. New claims 8-10 depend from claim 3 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 3. Therefore, allowance of claims 3 and 8-10 is respectfully requested.

The amendment to claim 7, which was indicated as allowable, rewrites claim 7 in independent form. New claims 11-13 depend from claim 7 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 7. Therefore, allowance of claims 7 and 11-13 is respectfully requested.

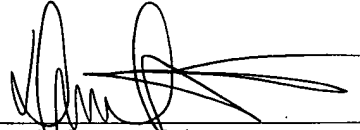
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified patent application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested.

Serial No. 09/904,754

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in  
the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account

No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel J. Whitman', written over a horizontal line.

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